

Learning Intention: To learn how to answer the picture type questions, in the N5 Art and Design exam.

Activity: Working in groups discuss how to write about each of the points mentioned in the question. Record the results of your discussion as a series of bullet points under the headings mentioned in the question: **Colour, Tone, Composition, opinion of the painting**



“Monkey Business” by Janet Fish (2005) Oil on canvas.

Explain what the artist has done to create a sense of drama in this still life. In your answer refer to:

Colour

tone

composition

What is your opinion of this painting? Give two reasons.

Total marks 10

What do we write about?

- Colour
- Tone
- Composition
- Opinion of the painting



Colour

Mix of strongly contrasting colours which adds to the chaotic feeling. Colour used gives it a bold bright look which captures your attention. Colour combination keeps your eye flitting around the painting, echoing the chaotic atmosphere. Strong colour contrast emphasises outlines of objects, e.g. green jug against red of tablecloth, red jug against green part of tablecloth, yellow flower against purple plate. Colour is heightened, making the painting slightly cartoon like

Opinion of painting

I like / don't like the painting because it: seems to tell a story/ is cartoonlike/ has bright attractive colour and a lively composition/

Tone

Objects are carefully modelled in tone, making them seem very 3D. Pattern of reflections on blue bowl and broken vase, give painting a slightly fragmented look which adds to the chaotic feeling. Foreground is generally darker in tone than background helping give the impression of depth. The many reflections on the shiny objects create a pattern, that helps draw the eye around the painting.

Composition

Messy disordered look helps capture the moment and tell the story of what has happened, creating drama. Arrangement of objects is not as random as it appears, as the succession of shapes seems to lead the eye around the painting in an elliptical path from top right. Hindquarters of Monkey at top right, helps explain the state of the objects on the table as if we are looking at the moment immediately after the monkey has just knocked over everything on the table. The variety and contrast in the various shapes helps create interest and drama

To write your answer you now turn each bullet point into a sentence. If you make a valid point which is justified

For example:

I think the cold harmonious colours in the background contrast with the mostly warm harmonious colours in the foreground helping to separate them.